

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
May 13, 2005

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Governor Proclaims Emergency Medical Services Week in North Dakota

BISMARCK, N.D. – Governor John Hoeven has proclaimed May 15 through 21, 2005, as Emergency Medical Services Week in North Dakota.

This year's event will honor the more than 5,000 personnel who serve the state's emergency medical services system. The theme, "EMS: Ready, Responsive, Reliable," emphasizes that no matter the emergency or when it occurs – be it an injury, an automobile crash, a heart attack, a diabetic emergency or childbirth – EMS responders are there to provide immediate lifesaving care and transportation.

"Emergency medical services are an integral part of North Dakota's health care system," Hoeven said. "These dedicated and determined emergency workers help to ensure the health, protection and physical well-being of all North Dakotans. They are heroes every day."

The members of emergency medical services teams, both pre-hospital and in-hospital, are highly trained specialists ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Emergency medical services systems dramatically improve the survival and recovery rate of people who experience sudden illness or injury, and EMS personnel are dedicated to saving lives through injury prevention, safety awareness and emergency preparedness.

For more information about Emergency Medical Services Week, contact Tim Meyer, Division of Emergency Medical Services, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.328.4728.

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PROCLAMATION
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK
May 15-21, 2005

WHEREAS, emergency medical services are a vital public service for the citizens of North Dakota; and

WHEREAS, emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, the emergency medical services system consists of physicians, nurses, paramedics, emergency medical technicians, advanced first aid ambulance attendants, first responders, firefighters, educators, administrators and others; and

WHEREAS, emergency medical services team members, whether career or volunteer, participate in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

NOW, THEREFORE, as the Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim May 15-21, 2005, **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK** in the state of North Dakota.

John Hoeven
Governor